REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9-11, 18, 21-23, 26 and 28 are pending for consideration in the application. Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9-11, 18, 21-23, and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent no. 5,825,943 ("DeVito") in view of U.S. patent no. 6,765,559 ("Hayakawa"). Claim 28 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeVito in view of U.S. publication no. 2001/0041021 ("Boyle").

Independent claims 1 and 23 provide a document digitizing method comprising optically scanning a document comprising a plurality of pages, forming and storing digitized image files from the optically scanned plurality of pages of the document, and optically recognizing under computer control characters in the plurality of optically scanned pages of the document. The method includes forming and storing text files of the optically recognized characters in the plurality of pages of the document, and, after a search of the document for a results page comprising a selected text string, providing access to a digitized image file of at least one of a next preceding and a next succeeding page of the results page. Independent claim 18 provides a method of retrieving the digitized image file for a document, comprising storing digitized image files for plural printed documents in association with text files of the text characters in each document, the text files being generated by computer optical character recognition of the digitized image files or related image files, searching the text files to identify any having a selected text string, and providing access to a first digitized image file corresponding to a first text file identified as having the selected text string. The method includes providing access to at least the first digitized image file corresponding to a next successive text file after the first digitized image file and a next preceding digital image file representing a digitized image of a next preceding text file before the first digitized image file.

DeVito discusses a method of generating a text data set representative of a text portion of information contained in a document set (DeVito at Abstract). A search phrase identified in response to user-specified search criteria and the search phrase is identified in the text image data set (*Id.*) A display of the portion of the page containing the search phrase is generated using coordinates information (*Id.*). Occurrences of a search phrase may be identified 212 prior to identifying 214 the corresponding coordinates information (*Id.* at col.

5, ll. 37-40). Hayakawa discusses a method for displaying electronic information by a page turning operation (Hayakawa at Abstract). A user interface is provided that includes a metaphor like a book, newspaper or magazine to enable a user to turn pages as if he or she is turning over pages of a book (*Id.* at col. 3, ll. 25-27).

Even assuming that one skilled in the art of document imaging and indexing systems would be motivated to combine DeVito with Hayakawa (and Applicant does not concede as much), the combination of DeVito with Hayakawa does not disclose, teach or suggest the claimed invention. DeVito discusses identifying a search phrase in a text image data set and occurrences of the search phrase in the text image data set. Hayakawa discusses a method for displaying electronic information such that a user is enabled to turn pages as if he or she is turning over pages of a book. At most, combining DeVito with Hayakawa may teach one skilled in the art how to display DeVito's search results such that a user is enabled to review the search results as if he or she is turning the pages of a book. The references, alone or in combination, however, do not disclose, teach, or suggest providing access to a digitized image file of at least one of a next preceding and a next succeeding page of a results page, as recited in independent claims 1 and 23. Likewise, DeVito and Hayakawa, whether alone or in combination, do not disclose, teach, or suggest providing access to at least one of a next successive digital image file corresponding to a next successive text file after a first text file and a next preceding digital image file representing a digitized image of a next preceding text file before the first text file.

As claims 3, 4, 7, 9-11 depend from claim 1, claims 21 and 22 depend from claim 18, and claim 26 depends from claim 23, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9-11, 18, 21-23, and 26 patentably define over the cited references and are in condition for allowance.

Claim 28 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeVito in view of U.S. publication no. 2001/0041021 ("Boyle"). Boyle discusses providing a conduit between a handheld electronic device and a remote storage unit, allowing a user to transfer images captured by an image capture device attached to the handheld electronic device, and synchronizing data between the handheld electronic device and the remote storage unit (Boyle at abstract). DeVito and Boyle, alone or in combination, do not disclose, teach or suggest providing access to a digitized image file of at least one of a next preceding and a

next succeeding page of a results page, as recited in independent claim 1, from which claim 28 depends. DeVito and Boyle, whether alone or in combination, do not disclose, teach, or suggest providing access to at least one of a next successive digital image file corresponding to a next successive text file after a first text file and a next preceding digital image file representing a digitized image of a next preceding text file before the first text file.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9-11, 18, 21-23, 26, and 28 patentably define over the cited references and are in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for the pending claims.

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